ANSARI): (a) The Government have not received any such report.

(b) and (c) An expert group was appointed to study the environmental problems in beaches and to recommend necessary safeguards. On the basis of their report, the Government have issued environmental guidelines for development of beaches so as to protect the aesthetic, ecological and cultural values of the beaches.

Cases of torture in police custody in Delhi

1629. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express of the 7th October, 1988 highlighting the cases of torture during detention in police custody in Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the inquiry, if any, made by Government into the incidents of torture mentioned in the report and what action has been taken against the persons found responsible therefor; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government so far to put an end to the use of third degree methods during the course of investigations and the manner in which Government propose to reform the police personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Facts brought out in the enquiry warrant disciplinary action against the erring police officials. Show-cause notices for censure have been issued to three Sub-Inspectors and one Assistant Sub-Inspector.

(c) Investigating officers are briefed by senior officers from time to time during investigation and encouraged to adopt modern scientific methods such as lie detectors, use of dog squads etc. Standing instructions against the use of 'third degree method' have also been issued by the Commissioner of Police.

New Forest Policy

1630. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have recently drafted a new Forest Policy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the drafted policy was circulated to the State Governments for comments and

(c) if so, what is State Governments' reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Comments were received from some States. These States had endorsed the broad approach and due note has been taken of the individual suggestions made by them.

Citizenship certificates in Assam

1631. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the foreign nationals even after their detection and subsequent verdict by Tribunal Courts against them, challenge the verdict of the courts by procuring the certificates from West Bengal or from Tripura at a later date; and

(b) if so, what steps the Central Government propose to take in the matter?